

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
OF TEXAS

JIM MATTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

November 26, 1990

Ms. Emily E. Helm
Director of Legal Services
Texas Youth Commission
P.O. Box 4260
Austin, Texas 78765

OR90-556

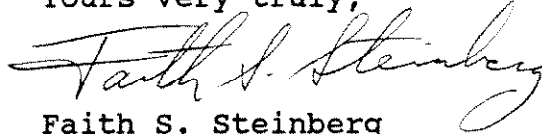
Dear Ms. Helm:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Texas Open Records Act, article 6252-17a, V.T.C.S. Your request was assigned ID# 10609.

You have received a request for information held in your files pertaining to a certain individual. Some of the information responsive to the request is information held by the Youth Rights Specialist at your agency's West Texas Children's Home. The material relates to investigations of allegations of neglect or abuse of youth. We have considered the exceptions you claimed, sections 3(a)(1) and 3(a)(14) specifically, and have reviewed the documents at issue. You assert that the information sought by the requestor is protected by section 3(a)(1) as information deemed confidential by statute, by virtue of sections 34.08 and 51.14 of the Texas Family Code. You also claim that the information is protected under section 3(a)(14)'s exception for student records at state funded educational institutions. You have provided us with prior letter rulings of this office, Open Records Letter Ruling OR88-091 and the letter ruling dated February 3, 1987, supporting your claims. See also Open Records Decision No. 440 (1986). We agree that the exceptions cited are applicable to the case before us, and therefore find that you may withhold the requested materials.

Because prior published open records decisions resolve your request, we are resolving this matter with this informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. If you have questions about this ruling, please refer to OR90-556.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Faith S. Steinberg".

Faith S. Steinberg
Assistant Attorney General
Opinion Committee

FSS/le

Ref.: ID# 10609, 10697

Enclosure: Open Records Decision No. 440

cc: Mr. Paul Snelson
6 Snelson Place
Monahans, Tx. 79756